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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 07553.0017-00000

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
Mitsuru ISHIKAWA et al. ) Group Art Unit: 1792  
Application No.: 09/696,232 ) Examiner: Olsen, Allan W.  
Filed: October 26, 2000 ) Confirmation No.: 5127  
For: ETCHING METHOD )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**AMENDMENT**

In reply to the Office Action mailed October 11, 2007, the period for response to which extends through January 11, 2008, Applicants amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.

**Attachment** to this Amendment includes one (1) Declaration with an English language translation of Japanese Patent Application No. 11-303422.